

When the campaign was at its height in October its progress was arrested and the whole country was shocked by the attempted assassination of Eoosevelt while he was on a speaking tour in the West. As he was leaving his hotel in Milwaukee, on the evening of October 14, a half-crazed fanatic shot him as he stood in an automobile bowing to a cheering crowd. His assailant was only a few feet away when he fired the shot which under ordinary conditions would have been fatal. One of Roosevelt's secretaries, Elbert E. Martin, who had been a football player, immediately sprang upon the assailant and forced him to the ground. The crowd, thoroughly incensed, was crying out, "Lynch him, lynch him," but Eoosevelt, who had not been thrown down by the shot, calmed the crowd by saying: "Don't hurt him! Bring Mm here. I want to look at him." When one of his secretaries suggested that Eoosevelt be taken at once to a hospital, he said: "You get me to that speech; it may be the last I shall deliver, but I am going to deliver this one."

He rode at once to the hall where he was to speak, and on arriving there one of his companions exclaimed as soon as they came into a lighted room: "Look, Colonel, there's a hole in your overcoat!" Eoosevelt looked down, saw the hole, and putting his hand inside his coat, withdrew it with blood upon it. Not at all dismayed, he said: "It looks as though I had been hit, but I don't think it is anything serious." Three physicians who were found

in the au-
dience examined the wound, said the bullet
had penetrated
his breast, that they could not tell how serious
the injury
was, but that in their opinion he should be
taken at once
to a hospital. ,He refused absolutely to permit
this, saying:
"I will make this speech, or die; one or the
other," and
strode to the platform. The great audience,
in ignorance
of the shooting, broke into prolonged cheering
at his ap-
pearance, and when quiet was restored the
presiding officer
said: "I have something to tell you and I hope
you will
receive the news with calmness. Colonel
Eoosevelt has been